

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 08326 271730Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 H-01 /116 W
-----007060 271758Z /50

R 270742Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1848
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 8326

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, IN
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR TOPICS

REF: NEW DELHI 8325

1. NOW THAT IT APPEARS THAT SETHNA WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN
TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK JUNE 9, WE BELIEVE IT
IMPORTANT THAT DEPARTMENT HAVE A CLEAR VIEW OF SETHNA'S
PROBLEMS WITH SAFEGUARDS.

2. COURTNEY REPORTS THAT HE HAS NEVER HEARD SETHNA SAY THAT
SAFEGUARDS BY THEMSELVES "WILL IN FACT IMPEDE INDIA'S WORK
ON PEACEFUL NUCLEAR ENERGY." HE ONLY SAYS THAT "WE WOULD
RATHER NOT HAVE PEOPLE LOOKING OVER OUR SHOULDER OR
PHRASES OF THAT LEVEL OF GENERALITY. IN COURTNEY'S VIEW
SETHNA IS TELLING US THAT SAFEGUARDS IN THE BEST OF ALL
POSSIBLE WORLDS WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE UNACCEPTABLE TO
INDIA AND IN FACT IF THEY WERE APPLIED EQUITABLE WOULD
BE WELCOME AS A GENUINE
NON-PROLIFERATION DEVICE. HOWEVER HE IS SAYING THAT ONE
CANNOT LOOK ON SAFEGUARDS, PARTICULARLY OF THE FULL-SCOPE
VARIETY, IN VACUO. HE ARGUES THAT THE PROPOSAL FOR FULL-
SCOPE SAFEGUARDS MUST BE VIEWED IN CONTEXT OF WHAT HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 08326 271730Z

REGARDS AS A U.S.-U.K. EFFORT TO USE THEM TO KEEP
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LIKE INDIA FROM PURSUING EFFECTIVE
REPROCESSING AND BREEDER PROGRAMS. HE CITES MANY PARTS
OF U. (. NON-PROFLIERATION LEGISLATION AS DESIGNED TO PUT
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT DISADVANTAGE TO COMPETE WITH
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THEIMPLICATION OF HIS REMARKS IS
THAT OUR LEGISLATION IS DESIGNED TO PERMIT US TO CUT OFF

COOPERATION AT ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE SHOULD NON-WEAPON COUNTRIES BEING TO ACQUIRE REALLY SOPHISTICATED NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. IN OTHER WORDS HE SEEMS TO BE ARGUING THAT UNDER THE 1978 NON-PROLIFERATION ACT THE U.S. WOULD NEVER REALLY BE A RELIABLE SUPPLIER.

3. SETHNA HAS ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT THE DECISION ON FULL-SCOPE SAFEGUARDS MUST BE A POLITICAL ONE THAT WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL. HE SIMPLY SAYS THAT THE PROBLEMS FOR INDIA IN ACCEPTING FULL-SCOPE SAFEGUARDS GO FAR BEYOND THE INSTALLATION OF IAEA SURVEILLANCE DEVICES, INSPECTION TEAMS AND REPORTING PROGRAMS. ONE HAS TO LOOK AT THE POLITICAL INTENT OF THOSE TRYING TO PUSH FULL-SCOPE SAFEGUARDS ON INDIA.

4. FOREGOING SUGGESTS THAT SETHNA WOULD BE INTERESTED IN TALKING ABOUT EFFECT OF U.S. LEGISLATION AND POLICY ON INDIA'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM. BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT HE WOULD NOT CONSIDER A SIMPLE REVIEW OF THE APPARENT EFFECTS OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS PROGRAM AS SUFFICIENT. HE WOULD WANT TO KNOW HOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIA'S RE-PROCESSING AND BREEDER PROGRAMS AS WELL AS COOPERATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD BE AFFECTED BY OUR POLICY PARTICULARLY AS IT IS EXPRESSED IN THE NON-PROLIFERATION LEGISLATION. IN THIS RESPECT IT IS VITAL TO REMEMBER THAT HE CONSIDERS OUR STATEMENT "WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NEW DE 08326 271730Z

A CONTEMPORARY REPROCESSING PLANT IS SAFEGUARDABLE" TO BE A DIRECT THREAT TO INDIA'S BREEDER PROGRAM.
GOHEEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE08326
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780225-0034
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780511/aaaaaiwt.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b56e3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NEW DELHI 8325
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2537296
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NUCLEAR TOPICS
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b56e3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014